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Reports from Kobe—Inspection of vessels—Examination of emigrants—Localities from which emigration is drawn—Plague and smallpox at Osaka and Nara.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Slade reports, May 19.

During the week ended May 16, 5 supplemental bills of health were granted to 5 steamships and 1 original bill of health was granted 1 steamship; 346 members of crews and 314 steerage passengers were inspected; 36 members of crews and 143 steerage passengers were bathed and had their effects disinfected by steam. The number of pieces of baggage steamed was 475; the number of pieces of bedding similarly treated, 294. Manifests were viséed for 26,246 pieces of freight, amounting to 2,331 tons.

Emigrants were examined as follows:

Steamship *Nippon Maru* for Honolulu, passed 137; recommended for rejection, 74; steamship *Nippon Maru* for San Francisco, passed 7; recommended for rejection 5.

The report from Osaka for the week ended May 9 shows 2 cases of plague with 2 deaths and 52 cases of smallpox with 29 deaths.

Plague broke out early this month at Nara, about 22 miles northeast of Osaka; from the last report, May 14, there were 7 cases.

Between the islands of Kuishu and Formosa there are a number of islands named the Luchus. From this section of the Empire of Japan an ever-increasing number of emigrants, bound chiefly for Honolulu, but some also for Seattle, is recruited. They are generally healthy except for scabies, from which disease about 10 per cent have to be rejected. It is extremely rare to find any suffering from trachoma. Emigrants who leave this port are strong and healthy. It is rare that any have to be refused except for trachoma, but for this disease alone about 33½ per cent are rejected. The Japanese oculists understand well the treatment, both surgical and medical, of this disease, and the people are becoming more alive to its importance. Great numbers of emigrants come from Hiroshima and Yamaguchi districts, which are located about 180 miles south of Kobe.

Statistics of smallpox at Kobe during the six years ended December 31, 1907.

Year.	Disease.	Cases.	Deaths.	Date of first outbreak.	Date of last case.
1902	Cholera	841	607	June 9	November 4.
	Plague	1	1	April 21	April 21.
	Smallpox	0	0		
1903	Cholera	62	35	April 22	October 1.
	Plague	0	0		
	Smallpox	29	1		
1904	Cholera	33	18	May 27	November 4.
	Plague	1	1		
	Smallpox	8	0		
1905	Cholera	7	2	May 27	August 2.
	Plague	89	67	August 6	Continued through year.
	Smallpox	3	0		
1906	Cholera	0	0		
	Plague	64	48	Continued from previous year..	December 5.
	Smallpox	4	1		
1907	Cholera	500	174	August 17	December 6.
	Plague	1	1	May 1	May 1.
	Smallpox	812	148	August 17	Continued into 1908.